

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SAJ-01

NIC-01 OMB-01 EB-07 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 /079 W

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FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7804

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL MUNICH

UNCLAS PRAGUE 0655

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, EFIN, CZ, US

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER SPEECH TO FEDERAL ASSEMBLY

1. MARCH 25 PRIME MINISTER STROUGAL MADE MAJOR SPEECH TO
FEDERAL ASSEMBLY ON PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING DECEMBER 1971
GOVERNMENTAL PROGRAM. ANALYSIS OF SPEECH FOLLOWS SEPTTEL.

2. IN FOREIGN POLICY PORTION OF SPEECH, WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF
GENERAL DEFENSE OF DETENTE, STROUGAL MADE FOLLOWING REMARKS
ABOUT US-CZECHOSLOVAK RELATIONS:

3. QUOTE.

WITH THE US, TOO, WE HAVE CONDUCTED LONG AND COMPLICATED
NEGOTIATIONS THAT RESULTED, AS IS KNOWN, IN THE INITIALING OF
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A PROPERTY RIGHTS SETTLEMENT ACCORD LAST JULY. HOWEVER, THIS

AGREEMENT HAS NOT BEEN SIGNED, SINCE THE US CONGRESS FINANCE COMMITTEE ATTACHED AN AMENDMENT TO IT SAYING THAT THE INITIALED ACCORD OUGHT TO BE RENEGOTIATED AND SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS AS PART OF A FUTURE PACKAGE TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CSSR AND THE US. UNTIL THIS AGREEMENT IS PASSED THROUGH CONGRESS, THE US IS NOT GOING TO RELEASE CZECHOSLOVAK GOLD THAT HAD BEEN SEIZED FROM US BY NAZI GERMANY.

4. THE TRADE ACT BRINGS FURTHER DISCRIMINATORY TERMS INTO THE ECONOMIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE US AND SOCIALIST COUNTRIES THAT MAKE A CONTRACTUAL ADJUSTMENT OF MUTUAL TRADE RELATIONS IMPOSSIBLE AND HAMPER THE DEVELOPMENT OF MUTUAL TRADE RELATIONS. IT IS ONLY NATURAL THAT THIS GOVERNMENT, FOR REASONS OF PRINCIPLE, DISAPPROVES OF SUCH TERMS AND REGARDS THEM AS POLITICALLY UNACCEPTABLE.

5. WE EXPECT THAT HERE TOO COMMON SENSE WILL PREVAIL SOONER OR LATER, AS WILL THE REALISTIC APPROACH TO THE MATTER THAT WILL FINALLY LEAD TOWARD REVERSAL OF THE CURRENT OFFICIAL AMERICAN ATTITUDE. UNQUOTE.
PERRY

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